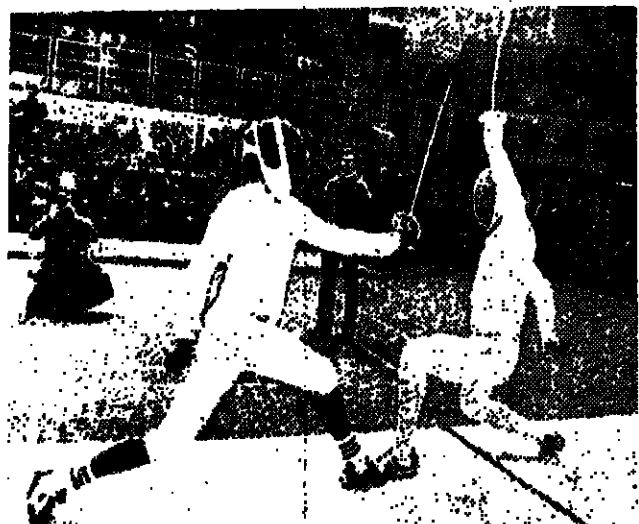


SPORTS

Kievan receives 'Moscow Sabre'

In the individual contest of the traditional International "Moscow Sabre" Fencing Tournament the "sharpest" blade turned out to be that wielded by the 22-year-old Kievan Grigory Pogorov. In a decisive match he beat one of the best Hungarian sabre fencers, Gyorgy Nebald 11-7, thus winning the prize offered by the weekly "Stroitel'naya Moskva".

The 11th "Moscow Sabre" Tournament has brought together leading athletes from nine countries. In the final tour, Pogorov put up an excellent performance undisturbed by the authority of his more titled rivals. Progressing towards the finals he beat the Olympic champion, Viktor Krotovskiy, of Moscow, and the world champion, Pal Gerewich, of Hungary.



A moment in the final duel for first place between Gyorgy Nebald, of Hungary, and Grigory Pogorov (left). Photo by Sergei Proskov

Niva up to the mark

21-year-old Jacky Ickx with his navigator Claude Brasseur driving a Mercedes are the winners of the Fifth Paris-Dakar rally. Driving a Soviet-made Niva, Andrei Tsvetkov and Eric Brastovskiy came in only fifty minutes behind Ickx. In the 10,000 km three-week ordeal, Algeria, Nigeria, Upper Volta, the Ivory Coast, Mali, Mauritania, and Senegal. Only 28 motorcycles and 90 cars finished the race in Dakar out of the 110 motorcycles and 200 cars which started out from the Place de la Concorde, in Paris.

Commenting on the race Tsvetkov and Brastovskiy said: "We are happy with our result. With a bit more luck we would have come in first. We lost our way in the desert in Nigeria when a sand storm broke out and visibility dropped to within tens of metres."

In Tsvetkov's words, Niva's technical merits including its reliability, are first-rate. This was confirmed by Jean-Jacques Poch, director of the Poch S. A. Company which markets the Soviet-made cars in France. The Soviet car-manufacturers can take pride in their products. The results of the Paris-Dakar run, the most difficult rally in the world provide brilliant confirmation of this. In the sum total of the results of such rallies, the Niva is, undoubtedly, ahead of other vehicles. It has won the Pharaoh Rally in Egypt, two rallies in Algeria and Tunisia, and twice came second in the Paris-Dakar rally.

Boris MIKHAILOV

Thailand to host a football spectacular

The USSR is among the nine (under-18) teams who have confirmed their participation in a football tournament to be held in Bangkok on January 28-February 10.

The Soviet Union will face China, Malaysia, Indonesia, and Thailand's first team in group A. The teams placing first and second in their respective groups will clash in the semifinals.

RECORDS FOR SOVIET CYCLISTS

At the Krylatskoye Moscow Olympics covered cycling track leading Soviet cyclists got off to a good start in the new season. They at once set two world records for indoor tracks.

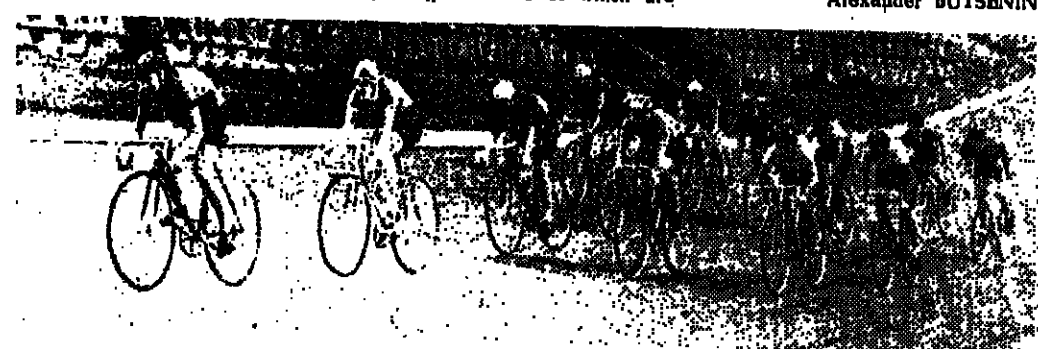
Six-time world champion Galina Tsvetkova, from Leningrad, showed a record result in the 10 km race — of 13 min 41.51 sec. In the 60 km pursuit race Alexander Dobichinski, from Khabarovsk, together with leader Viktor Kirichenko did very well. They covered the distance in 38 min 12.496 sec, a more than two minutes improvement on the previous world record, which was held for five years. These races were part of a programme

of competitions for Soviet racing cyclists with the participation of their foreign colleagues, vying for prizes offered by Aeroflot. The main sensation of the competition was in the sprint. Twice world champion Sergei Kopylov, from Tula, went down in the finals to Muscovite Nikolai Kovsh — world junior champion — and to Alexander Karpuhin, from the Moscow Region. Kopylov's main trump is speed, and it is exactly this quality that the "king of sprint" is working on at the start of the new season. This is why he did not regret losing too much, as for his speed, it is gradually improving, evidence of which are

his wins in the two-lap heat standing start race and his leadership in the winning team in the three-lap elimination race. Incidentally, the International Association of Organizers of Cycle Competitions for Amateurs (AIOCC) awarded him the Golden Pedal Prize for the best world cyclist in 1982.

The first competitions have shown that in the new year the favourites will be faced by serious rivalry from the young cyclists.

On January 28-31 the racers will compete at Krylatskoye for the medals of the national winter championship. Alexander BUTSEVIN



Defying the January frosts outside, hotly contested races are in progress at the Krylatskoye Cycling Track, in Moscow. In the photo: a group 18-lap race among women. Photo by Vyacheslav Katariev

Champion overtaken

The 8th European championship in speed skating has been won by Andrea Schöne, of the GDR. In this year's official international contest for women the 1,000 m race has been replaced by the 5,000 m event.

Schöne has become the absolute 1983 champion with a splendid total of 177.669 points, a new world record.

She won by putting in an excellent performance in the final "number" of the tournament which went on for two days at the skating rink, in the Dutch town of Heerenveen. Schöne covered the five-kilometre distance in 7 min 40.97 sec, establishing a new world record. Ten years ago this result would have been a world record for men.

Schöne also won the 3,000 m, another long-distance run she had set her eyes on a long time ago, with good results—4:28.18, a world record for skis on plains. In the 500 m event, she came fifth with 43.33, and in the 1,500 m she was third—2:10.61. The winner in these two latter events was Karin Enke with 42.51 and 2:08.58, which are world records for rinks on plains.

The 1,000 m winner in the two previous European cham-

ionships Olympics 80 champion Natalya Petrusyova, of Moscow, won the bronze medal with 1:40.390.



Andrea Schöne, Europe's absolute champion.

Tamara MCKINNEY dashes ahead

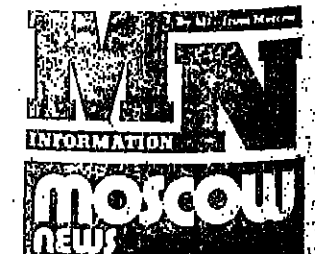
After winning the grand slalom in the French town of St. Gervais, the American skier Tamara McKinney has become leader in the overall record in the World Cup. She now has 142 points, seven more than the runner-up Erika Hess, of Switzerland. The other contestants, experienced Hanni Wenzel, of Liechtenstein, and Irene Epple, of West Germany, have 116 and 104 points respectively.

Among the men Swede Ingemar Stenmark has confirmed his world lead among alpine skiers by winning on the famous Hahnenkamm run in the Austrian town of Kitzbuehel. It was the fifth victory for Stenmark on the Hahnenkamm, which is a challenge to the most experienced athletes, and his 32nd in the special slalom events in the World Cup.

With 87 points, Stenmark is still placed only seventh in the contest for the Crystal Globe. The three leading competitors are Peter Mueller and Pirmin Zurbriggen, of Switzerland, with 123 and 110 points each, and Hanni Wenzel, of Austria, with 95 points.

FOOTBALL TEAMS START TO PREPARE FOR NEW SEASON

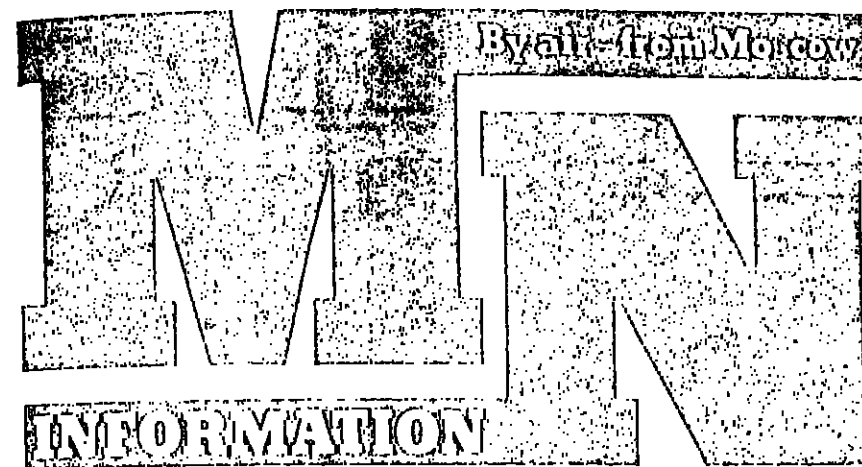
The first Soviet team beat the Olympic team, 2-1, in a control game at the central stadium of Sochi, a Black Sea resort. Chivadze and Demyanenko scored the winners, and Dumsaniy scored for the other side.



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To prevent nuclear catastrophe is our common duty

The Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet has sent the following message to the working presidium of the World Conference of Religious Workers for Saving the Sacred Gift of Life From Nuclear Catastrophe: The Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet has carefully examined your message addressed to the Soviet leadership as well as the resolution on nuclear disarmament and the appeal to the 37th Session of the UN General Assembly adopted at a meeting of the working presidium of the World Conference of Religious Workers for Saving the Sacred Gift of Life From Nuclear Catastrophe.

The Soviet people understand the profound concern expressed in these documents over the international situation which has deteriorated to very dangerous extremes. To do everything in order to avert nuclear war—such is the duty today of the leaders of states and of all political, public, scientific, religious and other organizations pursuing peaceful aims.

The Soviet Union constantly works for peace, for the relaxation of international tension and the development of relations of friendship and cooperation between nations. Recently our country has put forward new, and exceptionally important and far-reaching initiatives, including those relating to medium-range weapons in the zone of Europe and to strategic nuclear armaments.

The Soviet Union is and always will be a determined and consistent champion of the prevention of nuclear catastrophe. It welcomes and supports the initiatives of all those who stand for safeguarding and consolidating peace thus ensuring the basic human right—the right to life—and wishes them every success in their effort.



HE SAYS NO!

The United States. A hundred demonstrators were arrested and several wounded when the police dispersed a demonstration of students from the University of California protesting against the arms race policies adopted by the Reagan administration.

The students demanded an end to the constant growth in expenditure on military preparations at the expense of drastic cuts in allocations for social programmes.

Photo AP-TASS

Arguments in favour of friendship

Our recent stay in the USSR and our participation in various events connected with the just ended Week of Soviet-Indian Friendship has convinced us once more that the entire Soviet people is our close and true friend.

This was said to an MNI correspondent by the Vice-President of the Indian-Soviet Cultural Society (ISCS) Professor Copal Prasad, head of the ISCS delegation which has arrived in the Soviet Union at the invitation of the Society for Soviet-Indian Friendship to take part in the celebrations marking the 33rd anniversary since India was proclaimed a republic.

Our friendship, which is backed up by persuasive arguments, has roots that go far back into history. Professor Prasad continued. Our common lot was poverty and backwardness. Under Lenin's guidance the Russian people got rid of tsarism in 1917. Inspired by Gandhi's ideas, the Indian people threw off the British colonial yoke in 1947.

First of all I would like to pay a tribute of profound respect to the great Lenin. Basing himself on Marxist philosophy, he founded the world's first socialist state, which serves as a symbol of all round progress and of unity among peoples. It was the Soviet Union that helped backward India to become one of the ten industrialized states of the world.

Our common goal is a world without arms and nuclear war above our heads. What could be a more telling argument in favour of friendship and cooperation between the two nations?

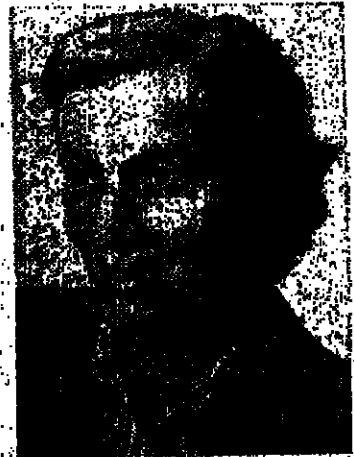
USSR ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AWARDS

The USSR Academy of Sciences has presented its supreme award for 1982—the Lomonosov Gold Medal—to Soviet Academician Yuri Khariton and to Professor Dorothy Hodgkin of Britain.



Yuri Khariton is known for his discoveries in a number of branches of modern physics, chemical physics and technology. His early research in molecular physics and chemical kinetics as well as his research carried out at the Rutherford Laboratory in Cambridge, Britain, has gained general recognition. Especially important is his work in nuclear energy.

Professor Dorothy Hodgkin is a prominent British scientist, and member of the Royal Society. Her outstanding contributions to chemistry and biochemistry have enriched world science. She is known as the author of



the first X-ray pictures of the crystals of elements. She has also made a major contribution to the development of physical methods of analysis in deciphering the structure of a number of biologically important macromolecules. In particular the X-ray structural analysis of the major antibiotic penicillin carried out early in her career, and the deciphering of the structure of the B12 vitamin.

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TALKS RESUMED

Geneva. The Soviet American talks on limiting nuclear arms in Europe have resumed here with a primary session of the two delegations led respectively by Yu. Koryzhinskiy and P. Nitze.

Vienna. The 29th round of talks on the mutual reduction of troops and armaments in Central Europe has started here. The first primary session was addressed by the head of the Polish delegation, S. Przygodski.

The socialist countries, he said, consistently uphold the

achievement of progress at the Vienna talks. This was confirmed at top level at the recent meeting in Prague of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member-states.

According to the member-states, all the preconditions exist for the achievement of early agreement at the Vienna talks in no more than one or two years. They have announced they will do everything within their power to forward this aim. S. Przygodski pointed out.

Why does Britain need the Falklands?

Buenos Aires. British Prime Minister M. Thatcher is trying to find a partner who will share with them the burden of the expenses of the defence of the Falkland Islands, and, if possible, will try to set up a permanent military base there. This was declared by the Argentine Minister of Defence Julio Martinez Vivot.

In an interview with the newspaper "La Capital", he pointed out that London's creation of a military bastion on the captured archipelago would allow Britain to increase its weight in the NATO alliance, and, having found an ally in the person of the United States, it would be able to "reduce its expenditure on the colonial occupation". However, the minister continued, NATO "has no business in the South Atlantic". In his words, the White House already faces serious complications in its relations with the Latin American countries because of its support

for the British aggression against Argentina. "It will be difficult now for Washington to explain to Latin America this possible partnership" with Britain in setting up a military base on the Falklands.

REAGAN

New York. President Reagan's State of the Union address has been panned by US law-makers and prominent political and public figures. The president urges more sacrifices from those Americans who have already had to tighten their belts. Democratic Senator Kennedy told the ABC network. We need an alternative to the current economic policy. In other words cutbacks in military spending and the lifting of tax privileges for the rich, he claimed.

Reaganomics is a complete



This ain't no aggressive weapon, folks! You can see for yourself—it's one and only objective is to safeguard world peace.

Drawing by Yuri Ivanov

UNDER FIRE

failure. It has plunged the nation into a crisis, from which it will be hard to escape, stressed former assistant to President Johnson, McPherson. Reagan's policy means that the rich get richer, noted New Jersey Democratic Senator Bradley. Commenting on Reagan's proposals, "The New York Times" points out that they amount to a marked growth in military expenditure accompanied by a reaction in practically all budget areas unrelated to military programmes.

SOVIET VIEW OF SWEDISH PROPOSAL

(Continued from page 1)

The Swedish government has been informed that the Soviet Union is ready to take part in negotiations to set up this proposal. The following matters should be discussed: the geographical confines of the zone and other issues, including monitoring the implementation of the undertakings engaged in by both sides as regards this zone.

RESPONSE
DECEPTION PURE
AND SIMPLE

Last year, the Reagan administration announced a return to "positive and lasting" democracy in Chile. At the beginning of this year, Washington is declaring that an improvement in the human rights situation has begun in El Salvador.

Let us look into the annals of 1982. "If one day I do 'attempting to escape', please, do not believe this, Mister Chairman. It will just be another case of political murder." This is an excerpt from a letter by Jose Kaurkman Perez, a Chilean political prisoner, to the president of the Chilean Supreme Court. The results of the Pinochet regime's nine years in power are 30 thousand people murdered and tortured to death, while thousands still remain in prison and concentration camps, and one million Chileans are forced to live in exile. The junta constantly adds to the list of its enemies who now include leaders of the Catholic Church.

As for progress in human rights, "Time" magazine testifies that the average number of murders for political motives in 1982 went down as compared with 1981 and amount to 200 every month. Independent observers in the United States who have visited the country say the number of murders was twice as many as "estimated" and stood, in fact, at 5,339 in 1982.

The microscope under which the White House has been examining the growing democracy in Chile and El Salvador is not an optical but a political instrument. Seeking friends among dictators, Washington is working to secure markets in the Latin American countries. What in fact it finds there is anger and growing resistance.

Vladimir BRODITSKY

Aggressors accused

Ho Chi Minh City. The documents of a symposium on the study of the consequences of the effect of the toxic substances on the human organism and on the environment have turned into a severe accusation of the inhuman actions by the United States during the aggressive war against Vietnam, declared the well-known Indian scientist N. Rao.

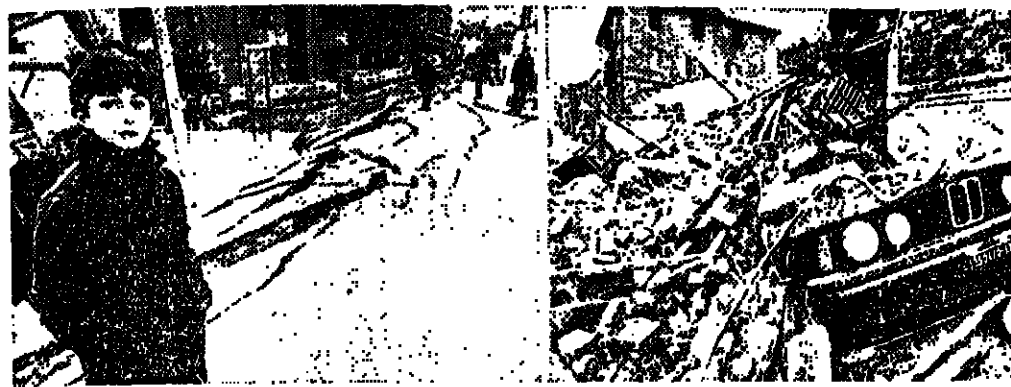
The present symposium, the Indian scientist stressed, has had extremely great significance, particularly now, when the United States is building up its stocks of chemical agents, and is making preparations for new military adventures. The conclusions on the terrible danger brought to mankind through the use of chemical weapons make the scientists appeal to all people of goodwill to launch a struggle to condemn Washington's sinister plans and to get chemical weapons banned.

FACTS
AND EVENTS

Two-thirds of all Britons are against deployment of American Cruise missiles on British soil, according to the results of a poll conducted by "The Guardian" newspaper.

The Swiss government is continuing its enquiry into the illegal arms supplies to South Africa via Switzerland by an international transport firm subsidized by Britain.

Service members of the popular defence forces in Tanzania have uncovered a plot to "provoke disturbances" in the country. This was reported by the Chief Police Inspector Solomon Mwan-



WHO WILL HELP ANCONA?

This is the present appearance of the city of Ancona, the administrative capital of the Italian region of the Marche, which was buried by a huge avalanche late on the night of December 14, 1982. The huge mass of stone destroyed many dozens of houses, and blocked the motorway and railway, which links Ancona with Bologna. Thousands of people had to leave their

homes so as not to be buried under the rubble. The first shock of the tragedy is now past, and the government has announced a programme to eliminate the consequences of this natural disaster. However, the people who lost their homes look despondent. They remember the fate of their compatriots from the town of Partanna on the island of Sicily which was

destroyed by an earthquake 15 years ago, and a similar disaster which befell other southern areas of Italy two years ago. The people who suffered in these latter disasters are still awaiting for the promises given them to be made good. In Italy their existence has become a symbol of suffering and poverty. The promises, however, still remain on paper. Now another town has lost all hope of a normal future. Who will help Ancona?

Differences remain

Geneva. After seven years of intense discussions, the EEC countries have come to an agreement on a common fishing policy. This was announced by Gaston Thorn, President of the Commission of the European Communities, at the end of another session of the EEC Council of Ministers held at fishery ministers level. Observers believe that the signing of the agreement does not mean that all differences between EEC countries relating fishing policies have been resolved.

AMERICAN ARMS SALES

ON THE INCREASE

Washington. The sum total of American Federal contracts on arms sales to foreign states reached 19,500 million dollars in 1982, according to a report prepared by the Congressional Research Service. This is almost three times as much as the sum of similar contracts for 1981 which amounted to 7,300 million dollars, private deals not included.

The bulk of the arms will be delivered to the Middle East and South Asia, with Israel, Egypt, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia being the chief buyers.

PEOPLE

The trial over the bribes given by the American Lockheed aircraft concern to high-placed Japanese officials has entered its final stage. At a recent session of the Tokyo district court the prosecutor demanded a five-year prison term for one of the chief defendants, former prime minister K. Tanaka. The indictment also demands that he pay to the state the 500,000,000 yen he received from Lockheed in 1973-74 for "promoting" sales of its products in Japan. The sentence is expected this October.

ATROCITIES BY POL POT CLIQUE

Pompenh. New waves of hideous atrocities perpetrated by the Pol Pot clique when it was in power have been discovered in Samroung, in the north-west of Kampuchea.

Collective graves have been found here containing, according to preliminary estimates, some 10 thousand corpses. Most of them were unearthed in the local pagoda courtyard which under the regime was turned into a place of confinement. Thousands of people from all round the area were brought here. The tools of torture used by the

Science and technology

THE END OF A COMET

The British magazine "New Scientist" has reported observations of a small comet, which "got" on the Sun or disintegrated while passing close to it. This is a surprise to astronomers as it was earlier believed that comets revolving around the Sun do not approach close enough to be destroyed by it.

SEARCH FOR COAL

CONTINUES

A programme of geoprospecting work until 1985 has been adopted in Montenegro. Yugoslavia. Special attention is paid to the search for coal. This is sought to provide a long-term supply of fuel for Montenegro's biggest thermal electric station at Pljevlja, now being built with Soviet help.

ITALIANS ARE INDIGNANT

Rome. Yet another Mafia crime—the murder of Giamanco Cirro Montaldo, the deputy prosecutor of the town of Trapani in Sicily—has aroused a storm of indignation in Italy. Known for his fearless fight against the criminal underworld, he was the initiator of a number of major trials which led to the arrest of some Mafia bosses and members of bourgeois parties who were found guilty of maintaining links with the syndicate.

Over the past year, the Mafia have sharply stepped up their activities, and have launched a veritable offensive against the democratic forces in an attempt to intimidate those who fight the criminals. Last year alone they claimed 150 victims, in-

SAIL IN PLACE OF DIESEL

Experts in Gdansk have started designing a sailing boat with a displacement of 6,000 tonnes for the shipments of general cargo. It will be built at the Szczecin shipyards.

The first Polish merchant sailing ship is to make its maiden voyage across the Baltic and the North Sea in 1986. Depending on its performance, a decision will be taken on whether or not to continue building such ships.

The epoch of sailing ships which ploughed way and oceans is long past. There are only a few such ships left, and they are mainly used for to train world-beaters. But in recent years in view of the energy problem, they are talking more and more often of the return of sailing ships to sea lanes for the shipment of certain cargo. Experts have estimated that this is quite justified from the economic point of view.

OF INTEREST

cluding Pio La Torre, secretary of the regional federation of the Italian Communist Party in Sicily and General K. A. Dalla Chiesa, the prefect of Palermo. The ramified gangster organization, which has penetrated all spheres of life in Sicilian society, has been trying to spread its influence to all other parts of Italy. They engaged in blackmail, extortion of money, and different kinds of financial transactions, as well as in the trade of arms and narcotics. In Palermo recently police uncovered a network of drug traffickers who were closely linked with the American Mafia.

Look out for amateurs in the sky

French industrialist Henri Minier, once said, "If you can knock together a box of planks, you can build a plane". At their own risk hundreds of amateurs design and build light aircraft of many different types. One of these planes is in the United States. It is a system consisting of light aluminium pipes and wings with synthetic cloth, stretched across, and a small engine. The pilot is suspended from straps.

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

WHAT WILL THE NEXT TWO YEARS BRING?

Commenting on the Reagan administration's second anniversary in office, A. Bavin stresses in SOVIETSKAYA ROSSIYA that in his mind, the next two years augur nothing good for Ronald Reagan. On the domestic front, Bavin stresses, I admit there could be some decline in inflation rates, some revival of industries, etc. But by and large, Reaganomics has no future. Reagan is endeavouring to backtrack from the 20th into the 19th century—and this is impossible.

More manoeuvring can be expected in American foreign policy, primarily regarding its ever-changing target, but not just that, Bavin points out. It may well be that, mindful of its allies' feelings, the White House will try to adjust its policy and to make it a bit more flexible. Perhaps there will be some cuts in the proposed defence spending, but on balance, American foreign policy will remain as it is now—opposed to détente and promoting confrontation and the arms race, Bavin stresses.

ON AMERICAN MILITARY DESIGNS IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA

PRAVDA writes that over the past few years the Pentagon has succeeded in regaining access to its bases in Thailand, which are now starting to receive increasing amounts of American weapons are flowing into South East Asia, primarily into Thailand. US Seventh Fleet has what amounts to "permanent registration" at Thai ports.

New plans are being drawn up for military cooperation. January saw week-long games, during which American planes dropped mines into the sea while Thai minesweepers picked them up. Joint exercises code-named "China Gold 83" are scheduled for this time, and there are to be sea games with Singapore and Indonesia taking part.

American military activities which contradict the interests of the South East Asian peoples are turning into opposition in the region. To neutralize this, Washington is resorting to various measures, including propagandistic brainwashing under the pretext of the mythical "Soviet threat" and economic and political pressure against local states.

WHO'S FOR NUCLEAR ARMS IN BRITAIN?

The rapid, and, at times, spontaneous spread of the anti-nuclear campaign in Britain and other West European countries has come about not only as a reaction to the NATO decision taken in Brussels to deploy new systems of American nuclear medium-range weapons. It was caused to a greater extent by awareness of the very real danger of nuclear conflict being sparked off in Europe by an intensification in military confrontation, by the counterforce strategy, being conducted by the United States or by a setback in one of the crisis situations, writes the WORLD ECONOMY AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS magazine.

Opposition to the deployment of British American Cruise missiles and the adoption of the Trident has been expressed not only by most members of the Labour Party, but also by half of the Liberals and Social Democrats. However, one should not overestimate the extent of the influence which the anti-nuclear movement can have on the official military and political policies, such as NATO membership, for instance, the building up of the armed forces or retention of the nuclear arsenal. Thus, the Conservative government now has the opportunity of implementing its military and political decisions, which once taken, will be difficult to cancel.

WASHINGTON'S BLACKMAIL

TASS commentator Grigory Vasilyev writes: the United States has warned Jordan's King Hussein that it will resort to other alternatives, if Jordan does not join the so-called "Arab-Israeli peace negotiations" before March this year. This amounts to an ultimatum, to gross pressure upon a sovereign Arab country conducting an independent foreign policy of its own. Having earlier failed to attain its aims through other means, Washington has resorted to "aim twisting" tactics so as to force Jordan to join as soon as possible the Camp David-pattern "peace process".

The American policy in the Middle East remains unchanged—it is totally pro-Israeli and directed against the fundamental vital interests of the Arab peoples. This is shown by the fact that the all-Arab settlement programme for the Middle East, which was drawn up at the summit conference in Fes, is totally of variance—and this is admitted by American officials—with "the Reagan plan" on key issues.

The appearance of these light structures in the United States, often piloted by inexperienced people, present a considerable threat to commercial pilots. Approaching airfields where meeting "amateur" planes are very likely to be, professional pilots peer nervously into the skies.

American services controlling air traffic have introduced a number of restrictions on amateur plane builders, yet despite this the number of casualties is on the increase.

Elks on the warpath. For a month now, people living in Anchorage, Alaska, have been terrified by elk. In the park, the elk has been terrorized by elk.

The worst sufferers are employees of the Anchorage hospital. A herd of seven elk have taken refuge in the hospital car park where they like the newly planted green shrubbery. They now feel themselves to be lords and masters of the compound and should an employee show up in the park, he runs the risk of ending up in a hospital bed, his flesh, torn and bruised, by elk horns. The police can do nothing, as the shooting of elk is forbidden.

HOME NEWS

Round the Soviet Union

● THE "VOLGOTANKER" SHIPPING COMPANY HAS STARTED THE HAULAGE OF OIL PRODUCTS ALONG THE VOLGA RIVER TO PROVIDE FUEL FOR TRACTORS WORKING IN THE FIELDS THIS SPRING. Because of the unusually warm weather, the navigable rivers in the lower reaches of the Volga and the North Caspian are free from ice, and river boatsmen are taking advantage of this to deliver fuel to farms in the area. Other cargo also includes construction materials.

● 3,800 HECTARES OF DRAIN-ED LAND HAS BEEN HANDED OVER TO THE NEW SOVIET FARM "THE GOLDEN FLEECE", BY LAND RECLAIMERS IN GEORGIA. This spring tea, citrus fruit, and other subtropical crops will be planted on it. By 1990, the farm will have four thousand hectares of orchard which will make it into the largest supplier of subtropical produce in the country.

● A FORECAST OF THE WATER SITUATION FOR THIS YEAR HAS BEEN COMPILED FOR THE BENEFIT OF FARMERS AND POWER ENGINEERS IN ARMENIA BY THE REPUBLIC'S HYDROLOGISTS AND MATHEMATICIANS. Although on the whole reserves of accumulated water will be sufficient to meet the needs of the republic's economy, shortage of water is expected in some areas. To cope with this, scientists have proposed rational regimes for the irrigation of land, and a wider application of closed-circuit systems for water supplies in industry.

● A MONUMENT TO THE GREAT TURKIC POET ZELILI WHOSE BICENTENARY IS BEING CELEBRATED IN THE REPUBLIC HAS BEEN UNVEILED IN THE VILLAGE OF KARALAKA WHERE HE WAS BORN. This picturesque village in the Kopet-Dag Mountains was the venue for the festival, attended by poets, writers and artists, in honour of the event.



● Professor Fyodorov in the operating room. ● This is how crystalline lenses are made.

EYE SURGEONS AND THEIR WORK



A former patient of the institute — Tanya Sineikova from Moscow.

The surgeons working at the Moscow Scientific Research Institute for Microsurgery of the Eye under the world-famous Professor Svyatoslav Fyodorov are always ready to take up seemingly hopeless cases. If the retina and the optic nerve are intact, an attempt to save vision should be made, they think. Among operations they perform at the institute are the replacement of the cornea and vitreous opaque body, the "welding" back of the retina, and the removal of cancerous tumours. In some diseases of the eye, they even resort to acupuncture.

Fyodorov himself is a specialist with wide ranging skills. Two operations in particular have brought him recognition—keratotomy, i.e., an operation which reduces myopia within ten dioptres, and the grafting of artificial lenses. Today artificial lenses are manufactured in many countries, and yet, ophthalmologists prefer lenses made in the USSR. Their size is negligible, and they only weigh eight milligrams. It should be added that implantation techniques for the lenses are very simple and take no longer than 20 or 30 seconds. The most important thing, however, is the curative effect of the lens: 90 per cent of people operated on have 60 to 100 per cent of their vision restored. And most patients have been able to return to their former professions, pilots included.

NEW HYDROCOMPLEX IN CENTRAL ASIA

The first stage of the Tuyamuyun irrigation and energy complex in Central Asia has gone into operation. This hydroelectric complex, one of the biggest in the country, is being built on the border between the middle and lower reaches of the Amudarya River. The two new reservoirs with a total volume of two thousand 800 million cu m of water will make possible seasonal control of the discharge of the Amudarya River as well as guaranteeing water supplies for irrigation systems in Kara-Kalpakia, for the Khwarezm Region in Uzbekistan and the Chirchik Region in Turkmenia. The completion of the first phase of the project will help prevent erosion of river banks as well as providing reliable protection for fields and orchards from floods.

The complex has also helped replenish water resources in the two fraternal republics, and last year blocks at a hydroelectric station rated at 100 thousand kilowatts a year have gone into operation.

The priority irrigation zone consists of over 250 thousand hectares of land suitable for the cultivation of cotton, maize, rice and vegetables as well as of fruit and vines.

Construction work has begun on irrigation projects for the second stage of the complex which is to incorporate two more reservoirs and a number of major canals. The assembly of two more blocks at the power station is to begin shortly.

When all the hydrostructures at Tuyamuyun go into operation at the end of next year, the development of irrigated farming in Uzbekistan and Turkmenia will be greatly speeded up.

COST-SAVING BLANKS

A continuous blank moulding plant has gone into operation at the Donetsk steel works. It will speed up the production of high-quality rolled steel.

Receiving metal from the electric arc furnaces the plant cools it, and moulds it into rectangular strips ready for the rolling mills. Steel used for is treated in various shops before

blanks intended for bearings could be made, and this resulted in a reduction in quality. The new technology will allow a 12 to 15 per cent saving in steel by comparison to the traditional moulding method. When the new plant reaches design capacity production will be 500 thousand tonnes per year.

GRANITE FOUND IN BYELORUSSIA

Byelorussian cities will become brighter when faced with granite slabs made out of stone produced at a new quarry belonging to the Mikashovich non-ore mineral factory. The new slabs will enhance the creative opportunities open to the republic's architects and builders.

This attractive strong stone used to be brought from other, mainly mountainous areas of the Soviet Union. It was thought hopeless to look for rock among the forests and marshes of Byelorussia. But geologists proved this theory to be wrong. The granite deposit they found is huge and lies only three to five metres deep.

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

EXPERIENCE OF USSR HYDROGEOLOGISTS

In the Soviet Union, particularly in the Central Asian republics, shortage of water has always been a problem. The search for water has been the aim of consistent efforts by Soviet hydrogeologists, writes the KRESTYANKA magazine. It has now been established that there is quite a lot of freshwater in the desert. It is stored in the shape of lenses which float on the surface of very salt water.

Such lenses can provide water to an entire city over a long period of time. Thus the famous Yoshkan lens provides drinking water to Nefit-Dag, a city in Central Asia. Scientific research conducted in the Kara-Araksain Plain has also helped in the development of deserts. The discovery of powerful sources of freshwater in the Karakum Steppe has inspired hydrogeologists seeking for water in the deserts in Kazakhstan and Turkmenia with confidence. A short while ago scientists completed a forty-five-volume treatise, "Hydrogeology of the USSR". It contains the world's first hydrogeological maps to have been compiled of such a large territory. They provide full answers as to where and in what quantities water can be extracted for drinking and for industrial purposes.

HARNESSING KAMCHATKA'S VOLCANOES

Although there is practically no coal, oil or gas on Kamchatka, the peninsula has energy resources of its own, writes Vladimir Belousov, Deputy Director of the world's only Institute of Volcanography, in SOVSISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA. Kamchatka's "boilers" are numerous underground hot springs and volcanoes. At a depth of only a kilometre from the earth's surface, the temperature of the water combined with steam reaches 250°C. This energy is enough to power major electric stations. The country's first geothermal power stations in the

south of the peninsula has been operating for eighteen years now, demonstrating the simplicity and reliability of the thermal system.

However, do we make full use of the potential offered us by the nature? asks Belousov. The prospected reserves of natural heat sources could activate geothermal stations having a total power output of up to a thousand megawatts. Still greater resources are locked up in the pockets of magma in the zone of active volcanoes.

Such projects belong to the future. Before they can be tackled a mass of complex theoretical and practical problems have to be solved. Tomorrow's achievements, however, can be seen even today: at the foot of the Kamchatka volcanoes, by the Mutnovsky geothermal deposit, preparations are in full swing for the construction of a major power station to generate two hundred megawatts of electricity.

PEACE — A LEADING THEME IN CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE

The writer Gaiyori Bulkanov ponders on the theme the artist and the contemporary world in the SOVIETSKAYA KULTURA newspaper. After the war (Second World War—ed.) a strange situation arose which humanity had not encountered before. I wrote about this in my American essays. People lived in the knowledge that man is mortal, but that humanity is eternal. Now for the first time we live in the knowledge that everything could disappear. And everything therefore is bereft of meaning.

This leaves its mark on the human soul. I believe that in the same way that one can tell from the ring of a tree whether the year was a cold or warm one—one can also see a ring marking the explosion of the atomic bomb in generations of people. The awareness that it might disappear results in a strange form of radiation in humanity. Should we manage to avoid this destructive war, then at some point these rings will be the object of serious study. And the effect all this had on people will be seen, I believe, however, that there won't be a war—confronted by the nuclear threat people are beginning to wake up: today our peaceful

initiatives are attracting attention even from those who yesterday announced their indifference to politics, and to problems of war and peace. The same is true of literature, Bulkanov continues. Today many writers at home and abroad are examining and thinking about these processes and inevitably the main issue of the present time—that of peace—becomes a leading theme in their work.

HOW TO PROTECT OUR TIGERS?

Unfortunately, the usual reaction to predators is that they should be killed off at any cost. The result of this attitude is sad: predators are among the most frequent species to appear in the USSR "Red Data Book", writes the ZNANIYE-SILA magazine.

In this country, the hunting of tigers, eagles and many other animals and birds is banned, and all illegal hunting is subject to fines. This situation could be regarded as satisfactory but for one circumstance.

The tiger in the Far East where many predators live is rapidly dwindling. The number of people in that area, on the contrary, is growing. Tigers cannot be locked away in a cage. They are fond of long treks, and the nature reserves in this country are evidently too small for them.

One solution would be to put all tigers into cages. In principle, this could be done, but the snag is that tigers don't like breeding in captivity. Besides, experience has shown that it is unwise to protect a species by placing it in captivity, because after some time this is followed by degeneration. What we have to do, therefore, is to replenish the stocks of wild animals. Danger to man could be reduced to a minimum if all the animals living in the wilds were kept under careful observation. Another important factor is the need to keep such animals fully provided with natural sources of food. To achieve this, large tracts of the Far Eastern taiga will have to be preserved intact. — one way of doing this would be to double the size of the territories of the existing reserves (at Sikhote-Alinsky and Lazovsky) where tigers live.

HOME NEWS

Places to visit

MUSEUM OF PRESS PHOTOGRAPHY

The first museum of press photography in this country has opened in Moscow on Zubovsky Boulevard. The core of its display is the private collection of

photos amassed by Yevsei Byaly, a Moscow photo correspondent. Also on view are old cameras made in Germany, France, Britain and America in the late



The Soviet Union's first small-format camera of TFD make.

19th and early 20th centuries, and the first Soviet-made cameras each of which is now a collector's item. There are photos by Karrik, the first Petersburg photographer, made in the 1860-1870s and photos taken in the first days of Soviet power.

Several sections of the display are set aside for the photographic equipment of our time and for the latest achievements in the art of photography. There is a total of 30,000 exhibits to be seen — quite an impressive figure. It all started 30 years ago when Byaly came across a broken old camera in the street. It was this that decided him to set up a museum of photography. He started to search for exhibits and to meet old photographers, travelling to many of our cities for items of interest. Having amassed a large collection, which is of great scientific and historical interest, Yevsei Byaly presented it to the USSR Journalists Union.



"Express" — a study by the Soviet photographer A. Shalkhel.

FACSIMILE EDITION OF RARE BOOKS

Facsimile reproductions of the old books in the academic library of Tartu University, Estonia, are put out by the Kunst Publishers, in a good-looking series called "Incunabula", including the first editions of Aristotle, Horace and Petrarch.

Incunabula — early printed editions — are the most valuable books in the Tartu University vaults. Only researchers and restorers can handle them. The University library which is the oldest in Estonia, has 47 incunabula. The unique collection includes ancient works in philosophy, astronomy, medicine and geography.

Much painstaking work preceded the publication of the "Incunabula" series. First restorers set to work to renovate

the faded texts, decorative additions to the pages and engravings. The most important extracts from old texts were selected for the composite edition and adequate translations supplied. Numerous photographs

were taken of the texts of the rare editions. The original engravings and the names of the original owners of the books have been preserved on the title-pages.

Foodstuffs preserved by nitrogen

Liquid nitrogen is now being used in the cooling system of refrigerator trucks that haul perishable foods. The first trucks were made at the Low Temperature Institute of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences.

The liquid nitrogen having a temperature of minus 196°C has a number of advantages over conventional frost. The frosty coat enveloping the cargo is an

inert medium that slows down the process of decay. Just a few minutes are needed for the coat to thaw, while the foodstuffs, including semicooked products, remain fresh and their biologically valuable substances are preserved.

By next summer thirty trucks will be ready and a station will be built in Kharkov to refill them with liquid nitrogen.

BYELORUSSIAN CRAFTS IN MOSCOW



The constituent republics are holding Days of Crafts at the USSR Exhibition of Economic Achievements. These exhibitions are dedicated to the 60th anniversary of the USSR which was celebrated in this country at the end of last year.

A short while ago, it was the turn of Byelorussian craftsmen to show their art.



The applied arts are very much alive in Byelorussia and continue to play a part in the everyday life of the people. In the village of Rylovich, in the Brest Region, folk craftsmen carve exquisite wooden tableware. In the village of Yelnyay, they produce earthenware intended for use in the village of Nalyubka, in the Gomel Region, they make multicoloured flax



table cloths and embroidered towels. Galina and Alexander Grab, a couple from Minsk (left) show how the stave knick-knacks, which the republic is famous for, are made. Galina and Alexander use traditional forms in their work as well as modern motifs and patterns, and they do the sketches and drawings for the objects they make themselves.



ves, boxes, crates and baskets from Byelorussia are much in demand abroad. The amusing clay figurines which were modelled by a girl from the village of Ivantay in the presence of visitors to the exhibition, are particularly popular with children. Georgi STRELNIKOV Photos by the author

VIEWPOINT

NATIONAL INCOME REACHES FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND MILLION ROUBLES

Leonid UMANSKY, Chief of the Department of Statistical Information, the USSR Central Statistical Board

In our previous issue, commenting on the report published by the USSR Central Statistical Board on the fulfilment of the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR in 1982, Leonid Umansky told our readers about how the USSR national income, which for the first time topped 500,000,000,000 roubles, is formed. Below he tells us how it is used.

Q: We in this country have a plan for economic development, and a plan for social development, don't we?

A: Yes. The state plan for social development is an organic, inalienable part of the five-year and annual plans, the results of which are summed up and made public every year. In other words, our people always know what has been promised and what has been received from the national income. Examples are new at hand.

Compared with 1981, the average earnings of industrial and office workers rose in 1982 by 2.8 per cent, and of collective farmers—by 4 per cent. In addition, during the present five-year plan of 1981-85, we shall continue to improve the pattern of earnings, this includes industrial branches of the economy and some regions, gradually raising minimum earnings and wages, as well as wages-rates and salaries for industrial and office workers, primarily in the productive spheres of the national economy.

Q: Wages and salaries alone do not account for the real incomes of the Soviet people. The income part of the Soviet family budget is made of wages plus payments and benefits from the social consumption funds. How have these grown?

A: Compared with 1981, the payments and benefits paid to the population in 1982 from the social consumption funds increased by 4.8 per cent. Why an increase of this size? These funds provide the population with a free secondary education and with refresher courses, for example. They also cover free medical care, benefits, pensions, university and college scholarships, paid annual leave, accommodation at sanatoriums and rest homes either free of charge or at a discount, upkeep of children at nurseries and kindergartens, etc. All these social institutions are open to the broadest masses of the population. Let me quote a few figures in confirmation.

In 1982, more than 103 million people received education at different levels; more than 15 million children attended full-time kindergartens or creches, and another five million attended similar establishments run on a seasonal basis; 60 million workers and their families took treatment and spent their holidays at sanatoriums, boarding houses, and rest homes. All this was either free or at considerable discounts.

In addition, the state spends more than 300 roubles a year per family of an industrial or office worker on the construction of houses, schools, service and catering establishments, and medical facilities. In 1982, all sources of finance were used to build two million new comfortable flats, while 10 million people improved their housing conditions. New secondary schools were opened for almost one million children.

ENTERTAINMENT

Theatre, Cinema and TV Stars

TATYANA SHMYGA

A Moscow viewer goes to see Shmyga in the Operetta Theatre with the same enthusiasm he/she goes to see Pilschskaya at the Bolshoi or Smolkinsky at the Art Theatre. For over 20 years now, Tatyana Shmyga has been a theatrical prima donna. The dozens of parts she has played in classical and Soviet operettas have uncovered the striking harmony of her natural gift—a fine musical sense, a beautiful and moving voice, timbre, and spectacular litheness. It seems she was born for the genre: she sings so easily, dances so gracefully, and her taste is impeccable.

The stage of the Moscow Operetta Theatre has been the only one in her life. She came there right after she graduated from the music department of the Institute of Dramatic Art. She tasted success very soon, which was followed by wide recognition.

I basically took form as an actress there in the Soviet operettas, Shmyga says, e.g., Frank Danneberg's "White Archa", Yuli Millyutin's "Lights Go On in the Circus" and "Children's Kiss". Each of these and other Moscow Soviet operettas which ran at that time were a feast of melodies, rhythms, and colours. The theatre recruited major composers to write musical comedies, we had operettas by Dmitri Kabalevsky and Tikhon Khrennikov, and Dmitri Shostakovich wrote his operetta "Moscow, Cheryomushki" especially for our theatre.

Our company plays operettas by Lehár, Strauss, Kalman, and Offenbach, with Kalman being originally the favourite, she noted. Incidentally, I started my theatrical career as Violetta in Kalman's "La Violette de Montmartre", and later played Ninon in a new production. All the generations of our artists were called with Kalman's music. His operettas "The Circus Princess", "Silvia", "Marta", and "La Bayadère" were produced when our theatre was still in its infancy in the 20s.

The Moscow Operetta Theatre marked the centenary of Imre Kalman with a new production of the "Gypsy Princess".

I am deeply convinced that the operetta can evoke sentiments in viewers no less profound and strong than drama. The light genre is naturally a conventional notion, linked as it is with only one goal of our theatre—to make the viewer feel good in communing with good



music, jokes, and dancing. But the goal of the Soviet music theatre is much wider—it is also to cultivate standards of sentiment.

Three years ago Tatyana Shmyga began combining her work with teaching at the same department of the Institute of Dramatic Art from which she had once graduated. Frankly speaking, she says, I sometimes object to it. The combination requires too much time and effort. Educating the youth is a big responsibility. The future of our theatre depends on what and how we teach them.

What about my next premiere? It is far too early to talk about that. But I cannot but confess that I look forward to it as this will be an operetta written specially for me. Hopefully it will have all the attributes of a true operetta. That is all I can say on the subject.

FACTS and EVENTS

Festivals. A festival of contemporary music of the socialist countries is taking place at the National Theatre in Havana, capital of Cuba. This year it is dedicated to the work of Soviet composers.

Cinemas. At the Turkmenfilm Studios, the famous Turkmen film director, Khodzhaali Nariev, is finishing work on the movie, "Karakum, 45° in the Shade". The film tells about the brave conquerors of the desert who do battle with the raging elements.

Books. A photo album, "Ballet, Etudes and Images" has been issued by the Mislotsvo Publishers in Kiev. It represents a photo-story of the well-known ballet company of Kiev's Opera and Ballet Theatre. Nikolai Kozlovsky, who was photographer for the "Ogonyok" magazine for more than thirty-five years, is author of the album.

Poetry. Vladimir Mayakovsky's poetry is very popular in

Austria. Collections of his work are obtainable from book stores in Vienna, Salzburg, Graz, and other cities. Leading literary circles include his plays in their repertoires. And the present look place at a Viennese theatre recently of a literary competition of Mayakovsky's poetry under the title, "An Address to All".

Tours. The Yaroslavl Dance Group from the ancient town of Yaroslavl is now touring Africa and the cities of Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, the Congo, Angola and Sierra Leone. The group's program includes a Russian poetic dance, a Moldavian suite, a ryak dance and other dances of the peoples of the Soviet Union.

Theatre. "Venceremos", the slogan of the Chilean people, rang out through the Ad Club in Moldova, at the night of the play "Twelve Logues Overheard in a Co- of Passersby" which is dedicated to the memory of poet V. Jara who was murdered by fascists.

MARYLA BACK WITH US AGAIN

Popular Polish variety star Maryla Rodowicz sang in Moscow after performing in Leningrad. She first came into the limelight when she was listed among the winners of the 1968 Sochi International song festival, and has since been very popular with song-lovers in the USSR, particularly with young audiences.

Maryla will also sing in Tashkent and in Alma-Ata, capital of Kazakhstan, as well as in Tashkent, in Uzbekistan and Frunze in Kirghizia.

I have long wanted to go to Central Asia, Maryla told an MNI correspondent. I look forward to the exotics and new impressions. The audiences there, I believe, will be as responsive and understanding as they were in Moscow.

In late February I will return to the capital, she continued, as I have some exciting work to do at the Melodika recording studio: I am making an LP of songs most of which will be in Russian.

Maryla's concerts were sold



out a long time ago, but it was who fail to get a ticket will be the opportunity of seeing her in the film, "Maryla Rodowicz in Leningrad", which is to be shown nationwide.

Photo by Tatyana Mayakova

All things start from childhood

This year, the Detskaya Literatura Publishers celebrates its 50th anniversary.

Since our foundation, we have been regularly publishing the best works by the writers of the fraternal nations of this country, says Detskaya Literatura Director, Alexander Vinogradov. Last year in which we celebrated the 50th anniversary of the foundation of our state, we published many books written by leading writers not only from all the 15 constituent republics, but also from the autonomous republics and from the territories and autonomous regions.

Among our new year publications, we intend to continue the "Leningrad" — a ten-volume

subscription edition launched to mark the 110th anniversary of Lenin's birth, as well as the "School Library" which contains works from Russian, foreign and Soviet literature.

In 1983 we continue the 50-volume "Library of World Literature for Children", the first publication of its kind in the world.

Over the years, we have produced more than five thousand million books. We publish 560 titles annually in 220 million copies. These figures, which to us are quite normal, often cause genuine surprise among our foreign colleagues. We live by the following precept: "All that's Best Goes to Children". And this includes the best books.



The Moscow Chamber Musical Theatre has premiered the opera "The New Life of an Old Town" by the outstanding Austrian composer Haydn. This is the first ever production of the opera. It is a work of great interest, says the theatre's chief director Boris Pokrovsky, the man responsible for the production. Haydn's opera are rarely performed — though he, at the same time, abounds in comic situations. The opera, as sung by graduates from my course at the musical theatre department of the Leningrad Institute for Dramatic Art.

Photo by Mikhail Strakov

WEEK OF SOVIET CINEMA IN PARIS

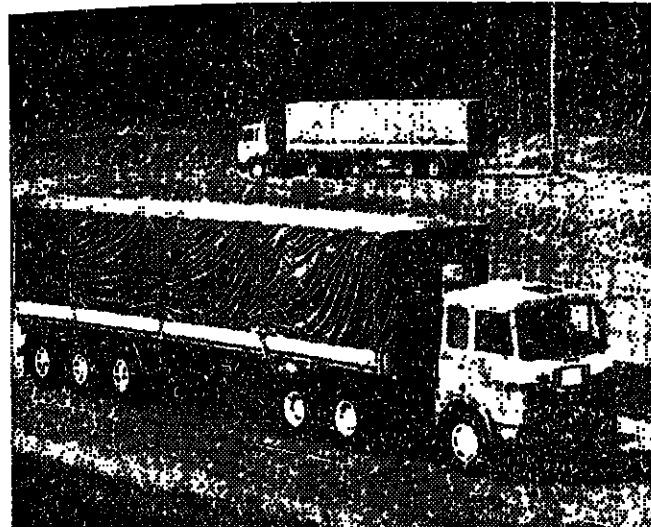
A Week of Soviet Cinema has come to an end in Paris. The French organizers of the Week drew attention to the fact that although Paris has about 400 cinemas where new films from all over the world are shown daily accompanied by massive advertisement campaigns, the Soviet film shows were sold out and many people had to be turned away.

LAO FILMS SHOWN IN MOSCOW

The premiere took place in Moscow and Leningrad recently of two Lao documentaries, "The New Life of an Old Town" is a film about one of Laos' most beautiful cities—Luang Prabang while "In the Land of Elephant Hunters" acquaints audiences with the life of the people in the country's southern provinces.

Only a few films have been released in our country to date, and nearly all of them are documentaries and shorts. Somkhil Folsena, director of the first Lao feature film, "Salvo in the Valley of Jura", who led the Lao delegation, told a Moscow press conference. We lack equipment. There are practically no professional actors in our country. But we are optimistic about the future, mainly because we get a lot of help from the Soviet Union, Vietnam and from other socialist nations. The USSR has already supplied us with a lot of cinema equipment and helps train our personnel.

BUSINESS



The Maz 6422 motor works sells its vehicles to many countries. Recently it has manufactured a new family of trucks. In the photo: the basic model, MAZ 6422.

Soviet-Moroccan economic relations

Trade between the USSR and Morocco is brisk and growing steadily as is shown by the fact that last year it was worth 170 million roubles.

The traditional Soviet export items to Morocco are oil and sawn timber, glass and medicines. In recent years there has been a considerable increase in supplies of a number of chemical products — ammonia, carbamide and potassium chloride. Soviet oil is, of course, particularly important for the Moroccan economy. A country with meagre national energy resources of its own. Soviet oil accounts for a major share in the total volume of liquid fuel exported to Morocco. Soviet exports of machinery, equipment and instruments, including various machine tools, and tractors and agricultural equipment, which are badly needed by Moroccan farmers, may become a highly important and promising field of mutual trade cooperation.

Soviet-Moroccan economic and technical cooperation is not confined to phosphates. In past years the Soviet Union has helped Morocco in the construction of such important projects as the Mansour Eladjah hydro-power complex, the Jerada heat and power station and the Mou-

lai Yousef hydropower station. Cooperation in putting Morocco's rich fuel shale deposits to good use is developing successfully. Soviet geologists have assisted in locating new deposits of cobalt, zinc, lead and manganese, and a map of Morocco's minerals, the first to be issued in the country, has been compiled and published with the assistance of Soviet experts. Cooperation in the field of sea fishing is being started. But today the main emphasis is indisputably on phosphates.

Rangoon Technological Institute

A diploma presentation ceremony has been held at the Rangoon Technological Institute for this year's graduates — some 500 chemists, power engineers and mechanics, who will go to work in the national economy. This is the 17th graduation ceremony of specialists from the institute, the only higher educational establishment in Burma training highly skilled engineering and technical personnel. The Rangoon institute was built with financial and technological assistance from the Soviet Union.

CREDIT LYONNAIS: TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MOSCOW OFFICE

The Moscow office of one of France's largest banks, Credit Lyonnais, is celebrating its tenth anniversary. It was the first foreign bank to receive accreditation at the State Bank of the USSR.

In 1962 Credit Lyonnais took part in financing virtually all the Soviet-French cooperation projects. Just as in 1981, when Credit Lyonnais was the leading creditor of the "gas for pipes" deal, last year it continued to provide credit for the French companies participating in the deal. For instance, the Bank took part in financing the operations of the Merlin Gerin company which sold the USSR inspection systems for the export-oriented Urengoi-Uzhgorod pipeline to the value of 165 million French francs. Other contracts backed by the Bank's credits include the supply of a sugar packing line costing 70 million francs by the Chambon company and the supply of five special Sniol boilers for ethylene production lines to the value of 360 million francs.

Since 1980 the credit extended by Credit Lyonnais has accounted for one-third of the turnover in Soviet-French trade.

FOR EIGHTY COUNTRIES

The Kharkov Factory of Precision Instruments has manufactured a new batch of field laboratories for rapid rock analysis for India. These compact installations weighing seven to 12 kg are very efficient in civil engineering.

Using the Soviet-made lab we are able to obtain all rock characteristics of a site within 15 minutes. Indian experts wrote to the factory from Malur, where they were constructing the Kall Nadi hydrotechnical complex.

The high quality of our goods is ensured by the fact that here at the factory we have developed a special technology intended for India, says Pavel Kichenko, the factory's engineer. For months we tested new grades of metals and plastics in special chambers having an artificial tropical climate. We also tested lacquer coatings for durability.

In addition to providing India with goods and expert advice the Kharkov factory also trains national experts for Indian industry. A large group of Indian students are now studying at the Kharkov Polytechnic. They will take their practicals at plants in the city, including the Kharkov Factory of Precision Instruments.

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Organized groups of 10 or more adult passengers are entitled to discounts on the services linking Moscow with Aachen, Hamburg, Bern, Ostend, Hoot-van Holland, Paris, Vienna, Rome, Turin, Athens, Istanbul, Stockholm, Oslo, Helsinki, Copenhagen or Leningrad with Cologne and Helsinki, or Kiev with Paris. Discounts amount to between 25 to 40 per cent of your ticket.

For further information on Soviet sleeping-car services please contact your nearest travel agent or Intourist office.

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93rd International Fur Auction

About three million pelts — 80 per cent of the total collection — have been sold at the 93rd International Fur Auction. Major deals have been concluded with West German, Italian, American and Japanese companies, said Sergei Bakayev, acting Director-General of Sojuzpushchina, the Soviet foreign-trade association.

We put on sale an all time record number of mink pelts — 12 million — and all of them were sold at the firm prices of

the December auction in London. Bakayev explained this success by the great number of West German, Italian and Japanese companies represented at the auction. There were two times more buyers than usual from the United States.

Almost all the sable pelts were bought by American dealers with sable prices rising by 25 per cent. Long hair furs were bought by Japanese and Italian companies.

Cooperation grows apace

Relations between Ghana and the USSR were given a fresh impetus in the past year. An agreement on assistance in organizing an economic planning and statistics service in Ghana was concluded in October 1982. The Soviet people's great experience in economic construction will be extremely useful for Ghana, Kwesi Dovie, Secretary of the Provisional National Defence Council for Finance and Economic Planning, said during the signing of the agreement.

According to an agreement on economic and technical cooperation between the two countries signed here last month, the USSR will give assistance to Ghana in the conclusion of the

construction of a factory for gold purification in Tarkwa, of a vocational training centre in Tema, of a plant for reinforced concrete structures in Accra and a number of other projects.

Soviet specialists will carry out a geological survey and design work to prepare for the construction of a hydropower station at Bula, on the Black Volta River. Young builders and power specialists of Ghana will undergo a course of vocational training in the USSR.

Soviet builders are taking an active part in the work of the prefabricated building complex which is to build over 200 contemporary residential buildings for 3,000 people.

HUNGARIAN TUGS FOR SIBERIA

Under contracts signed with V/O Sudimport, the Obuda shipyards in Hungary have built a 2,400 hp tug for the USSR. According to the terms of the contract between 1981 and 1983, the USSR will receive over 50 river

and pusher tugs and 107 floating and 300 gantry cranes. Simultaneously, the USSR is to supply Hungary with diesel engines, generators, pumps and other equipment. The Hungarian pusher tugs are intended for navigation on Siberian rivers.

Intourist news

Japanese tourists for Nakhodka

It is planned to build an Intourist complex for tourists in the Far Eastern city of Nakhodka, situated on the shore of the Sea of Japan. The complex will consist of a comfortable hotel with 250 beds, summer camps, a restaurant and a bar, a sauna, a gym and a boating station.

Intourist Nakhodka branch manager Gennady Yashkov comments as follows: on the project "Japanese" travel agents have repeatedly asked that we receive specialized groups of

factory and office workers, who want to spend their holidays in the picturesque environs of Nakhodka.

It is expected that Japanese firms will take part in the construction of the new complex on a compensation basis.

Parallel with the construction of the complex new itineraries for foreign tourists are being worked out, including a special tour for anglers. Last year at the request of our foreign guests we organized a trip to the exclusive caves in the environs of

the city. One cave, in particular, aroused great interest — in several of its caverns the bones of mammoths, bison and cave lions had been found.

Meanwhile a large group of Nakhodka residents are preparing to visit the Japanese cities of Matsuyama, Otsu and Tsuyama. A passenger steamer has been chartered to take 200 factory and office workers, teachers, doctors, sportsmen, and amateur athletes and other members of the public to Japan.

Yevgeny BUDAYENKO

WHAT'S ON?

January 29-31

THEATRES

Kremlin Palace of Congresses (Kremlin), 29 (mat), 30 (mat), 31 — Concerts. Bolshoi Theatre performances: 29 (eve) — Rimsky-Korsakov, "The Tsar's Bride" (opera), 30 (eve) — Tchaikovsky, "Swan Lake" (ballet).

Bolshoi Theatre (Sverdlov Sq.), 29 (mat) — Tchaikovsky, "The Nutcracker" (ballet); 29 (eve) — Prokofiev, "Betrothal in the Monastery" (opera), 30 (mat) — Bizet, "Carmen" (opera); 30 (eve) — Double-bill: Rimsky-Korsakov, "Mozart and Salieri"; Tchaikovsky, "Iolanthe" (opera).

Stenzlavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko Musical Theatre (17 Pushkinskaya St.), 29 — Shostakovich, "Katerina Izmailova" (opera), 30 (mat) — Morozov, "Doctor Doolittle" (ballet); 30 (eve) — Puccini, "La Bohème" (opera), 31 — Polko, "Legend About Jeanne d'Arc" (ballet).

Opera Theatre (6 Pushkinskaya St.), 29 (mat) — Falisman, "An Old Comedy"; 29 (eve) — Gadzhiliev, "A Crossroads"; 30 (mat and eve) — Gladkov, "Kholobych"; 30 (eve) — Millyutin.

Stenzlavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko Musical Theatre (17 Pushkinskaya St.), 29 — Shostakovich, "Katerina Izmailova" (opera), 30 (mat) — Morozov, "Doctor Doolittle" (ballet); 30 (eve) — Puccini, "La Bohème" (opera), 31 — Polko, "Legend About Jeanne d'Arc" (ballet).

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"Girls in a Flurry", 31 — "The Merry Widow".

EXHIBITIONS

Exhibition Hall, USSR Army of Arts (21 Kropotkinskaya St.), About 330 works by P. Konstantinov: Illustrations, classics of Soviet and world literature, drawings, landscapes, portraits. Daily, except Mondays, noon to 7 p.m. On Saturday, noon to 7 p.m. On Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. Kropotkinskaya, Trolleybus 31.

Museum of Arts of Oriental Peoples (10 Chukotka St.), exhibition featuring 150 works by 19th-20th century artists. On display are, both in the museum and in the gallery, engravings, as well as tapestries and reliefs based on national themes. Daily, except Mondays, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Kuryavskaya, Trolleybus 10.

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CONCERT HALLS

Variety Theatre (20/2 Beresnevskaya Emb.), 29 (mat), 30 — Variety programme. "Even a Cat Appreciates a Kind Word" performed by Yevgeny Patrocyan, 29 (eve) — Lyudmila Zykina sings. 31 — Sergei Yursky reads Dostoyevsky's "Crocodile" and Gogol's "Sorochinsky Fair".

Leningrad Central Stadium, Small Sports Arena (Luzhniki), 29, 30 — Moscow Ballet On Ice.

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WEATHER

January 29-31

In Moscow, city and region, snow at times, with warm weather continuing: 0°C in the daytime and -4°C at night. W and SW wind, 4-6 mps.

January 29 saw an absolute temperature maximum in Byelorussia: +4°C, +7°C.